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June 14, 2004

The Honorable Steny Hoyer
United States House of Representatives
1705 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Hoyer:

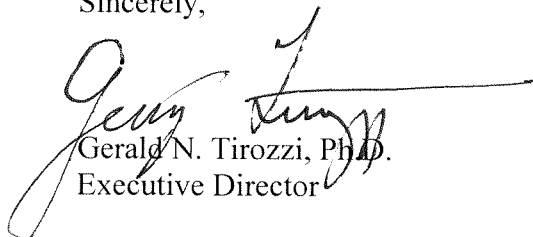
The National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) – the preeminent leadership organization representing middle level and high school principals, assistant principals, and aspiring principals – appreciates your efforts to facilitate improved school-community relations through sponsorship of *The Full-Service Community Schools Act*.

Quality community school relationships enhance the coordination, delivery, and efficiency of services provided to children and families, thus improving the learning environment for all students. Efficient delivery of non-educational services to youth and families supports principals and teachers as they help students meet academic goals. NASSP's recently released publication, *Breaking Ranks II: Strategies for Leading High School Reform*, features recommendations and strategies for principals to provide meaningful school roles to community leaders.

NASSP is especially pleased that your legislation includes delivery of literacy and reading programs. Far too few Members of Congress are responding to the literacy needs of adolescents, and corresponding dropout rates that have reached extremely high proportions in many communities. NASSP advocates for a federal role in addressing this problem.

The responsibility of providing non-educational support services to students should not rely on our educational institutions alone. The nation's most successful schools work closely with, and have the support of, other public agencies and communities. NASSP hopes that your bill will inspire schools and communities to find new, productive, and innovative ways to work together.

Sincerely,



Gerald N. Tirozzi, Ph.D.
Executive Director

promoting excellence in school leadership